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BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of Application No. 2006-01:
ENERGY NORTHWEST;
PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ENERGY CENTER

EXHIBIT __ (TWK-T)

APPLICANT'S PREFILED TESTIMONY

WITNESS: THOMAS W. KRUEGER

Introduction

Q: Please state your name and business address.

A: Thomas W. Krueger, Energy Northwest, P.O. Box 968, Richland, WA 99352-0968.

Q: What is your position at Energy Northwest?

A: Manager of Generation Resource Development.

1 **Q: What does your role at Energy Northwest entail?**

2 A: My role at Energy Northwest is to direct and manage the development of renewable and
3 thermal power generation resources.
4

5 **Q: What is your role with respect to the Pacific Mountain Energy Center (“PMEC”)?**

6 A: I have a project development role for PMEC. Accordingly, I am responsible for PMEC’s
7 business concept, feasibility study, and development plan. I was the PMEC Project Manager
8 in 2005-2006. In my new role, I oversee the Project Manger, who is Ted Beatty, and directly
9 assist with various aspects of project development and finance.
10

11 **Q: Please describe your background.**

12 A: I have over twenty-five years experience in utility operations, power & natural gas
13 marketing, and power plant & biofuel project development. I have successfully led the
14 development of high tech electrical systems & infrastructure, ethanol production, as well as
15 several thermal and renewable power generation facilities.
16

17 I received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Montana State University.
18 I have had advanced coursework in electrical engineering, management, and project finance
19 from the University of Portland and University of Texas. My resume is attached as Exhibit
20 __ (TWK-1) to this testimony.
21

22 **Q: What will you address in your testimony?**

23 A: My testimony will describe PMEC and its associated infrastructure, explain the proposed
24 ownership and operational responsibilities for PMEC, describe the role of PMEC in the
25
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1 regional resource portfolio and describe the role of PMEC in the Energy Northwest resource
2 profile.

3
4 **Pacific Mountain Energy Center**

5 **Q: Would you briefly describe PMEC?**

6 A: PMEC will be an approximately 793 MW Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (“IGCC”)
7 facility located on approximately 95 acres in the Port of Kalama’s north industrial area. The
8 facility will include an enclosed fuel handling and storage area with access to a deep water
9 port and multiple rail systems, as well as a natural gas pipeline and high voltage transmission
10 system. The facility includes access roads, a rail spur and loop track. Utilities and specialty
11 gases that are not created on site will be supplied through local supply companies. PMEC’s
12 generation capability includes 80 MW with gas-fired duct combustors which can firm and
13 shape intermittent wind generation or provide a regional power reliability reserve.

14
15 **Q. Has the size of the project changed since the application was filed?**

16 A. Yes, the project is now estimated at 793 MW. At the time the application was prepared in
17 the summer of 2006, the project size was estimated at 600 MW. Earlier this year, Energy
18 Northwest notified EFSEC in a letter dated February 6, 2007, that we planned to include duct
19 firing. The addition of duct firing increased the project output by 80 MW to 680 MW. The
20 additional emissions were included in the revised Prevention of Significant Deterioration
21 (“PSD”) permit application filed March 30, 2007. Since that time, our Engineering,
22 Procurement and Construction (“EPC”) contractor has identified up to 30 MW that can be
23 achieved through improving the efficiency of the plant operation, bring the capacity up to
24 710 MW. We have also identified an external source for the air separation unit (“ASU”).
25 The ASU provides oxygen for the gasification process and nitrogen for NOx control. The
26

ASU has been considered a parasitic load on the project in that it requires approximately 83 MW of power for its operation and when it was located on PMEC's site, it reduced capacity by that amount. There is an existing industrial air company adjacent to the facility site that could supply the oxygen and nitrogen. Under the current demanding market conditions for contractors, it is necessary to separate large process islands in order to cover both construction and long term operational risks. Total turn key lump sum projects are not being offered as they were just a couple of years ago. By contracting with an external company, the PMEC's output would be increased by 83 MW to 793 MW.

Q. Does the change in project size increase air emissions over what has been previously filed with EFSEC?

A. No, the addition of duct burners was considered in the revised air permit application filed on March 30, 2007. The increase in efficiency of 30 MW does not change the air emissions, other than somewhat reducing emissions on a per-KWh basis. The ASU does not have air emissions so its removal does not change the air emission calculations.

PMEC and Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle Technology

Q: Please describe how the Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle technology works.

A: Briefly, the IGCC technology includes two major integrated processes: the gasification process and the combined cycle power generation process.

In the gasification process, feed stocks such as petroleum coke and coal are pulverized, blended, and transported into a pressurized vessel (called the gasifier) along with purified oxygen. In the gasifier, controlled reactions take place, thermally converting feed stock materials into a low British Thermal Unit ("BTU") gaseous fuel known as synthesis gas or

1 syngas. The syngas is cooled, cleaned of contaminants, and then combusted in a gas turbine,
2 which is directly connected to an electric generator.

3
4 The electric power generating units would have three sources of power generation – two
5 combustion turbine-generators (“CTGs”) and one steam turbine generator (“STG”). The
6 expansion of hot combustion gases inside the combustion turbines creates rotational energy
7 that spins the generators to produce electricity. The hot exhaust gases exiting the CTGs pass
8 through heat recovery steam generators (“HRSGs”), a type of boiler where steam is
9 produced. The resulting steam is piped to the steam turbine, which is connected to an electric
10 generator. The expansion of steam inside the steam turbine spins the generator to produce an
11 additional source of electricity.

12
13 Thomas A. Lynch, a Principal Project Director for ConocoPhillips Company, who has been
14 working with Energy Northwest and Fluor Corporation over the past 24 months in
15 connection with preliminary engineering and design work for PMEC, is also providing
16 prefiled testimony in support of PMEC and can answer questions related to the gasification
17 technology that will be used at PMEC.

18
19 **Q: What is PMEC doing to reduce its greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions?**

20 **A:** Energy Northwest is committed to reducing PMEC’s GHG emissions, including the primary
21 GHG that will be emitted from PMEC, carbon dioxide (“CO₂”). The goal is to be a leader in
22 the industry and to set an example that will facilitate IGCC plant construction with a
23 significant CO₂ capture and sequestration component in places where power needs would
24 otherwise be met by direct-fired coal plants, such as China. In addition, Energy Northwest
25 will optimize the design and fuel blending to minimize the GHG/MWh. Ted Beatty of
26

1 Energy Northwest will detail Energy Northwest's plans to reduce GHG emissions from
2 PMEC in his testimony.

3
4 PMEC's IGCC design represents the integration of advanced technologies to produce a clean
5 burning synthesis gas from solid or liquid feed stocks such as petroleum coke (a refinery
6 waste), coal, or even biomass. Heat and water are shared between the gasification and power
7 complexes. This design results in significantly improved efficiency and performance of the
8 overall energy complex. Consequently, all emissions, including CO₂, are significantly
9 reduced when compared to a conventional solid fuel plant. During certain times of the day
10 and year, it should be economical to increase the efficiency through natural gas blending to
11 reduce GHG/MWh for operational compliance.

12
13 By utilizing petroleum coke ("petcoke") as the primary feedstock (over 90%), PMEC will be
14 processing a waste product from the refining of petroleum products that would otherwise be
15 burned in a furnace or boiler. Refineries will create petcoke as long as gasoline is used as a
16 fuel in the United States. Most western petcoke is sent to Asia to be burned. As a result,
17 GHG emissions from petcoke will be produced whether or not PMEC is permitted and
18 operating. PMEC, however, results in a better GHG profile for the petcoke because its
19 emissions are substantially lower on a per-BTU basis than the other facilities that use petcoke
20 as a fuel. PMEC is currently in the final stages of completing a long term petcoke supply
21 contract for almost all of its feedstock requirements.

22
23 The syngas manufacturing portion of the PMEC complex is designed to effectively separate
24 CO₂ from the synthesis gas prior to delivering it to the power generation facilities. Energy
25 Northwest will spend over \$50 million to install this capability and another \$10 million to
26

1 characterize nearby geological storage formations such as deep saline aquifers, basalts, and
2 unmineable coal beds. As sequestration science, policy, and technology advance, PMEC is
3 one of few plants in the United States that will be capable of capturing CO₂ for potential
4 permanent storage in geological formations. Until such storage is feasible, PMEC will
5 reduce emissions to the statutory standard through a combination of operational efficiencies
6 on site, at other power generation plants in the western interconnection, or other acceptable
7 methods as approved by EFSEC.

8
9 PMEC will be the most advanced power generation facility in the region. Energy Northwest
10 plans to expand our work with DOE and with an approved site certification team with federal
11 agencies, regional universities, and local community colleges to expand technical expertise,
12 research, and job training in GHG reduction technologies and applications. Energy
13 Northwest expects that PMEC will attract existing industry experts to the area and position
14 the State of Washington as a recognized world leader in proving climate change solutions
15 and education.

16
17 **Q: Why is the IGCC technology important?**

18 **A:** The deployment of IGCC is a major technological component of a GHG management
19 solution. Mastering this technology in the United States sets a standard that can be exported
20 to emerging economies around the world. While the estimates vary, it is clear that countries
21 like China and India will be building coal plants at a rapid pace for the foreseeable future.
22 IGCC is considered the most advanced coal technology for GHG capture and storage. And,
23 even without the sequestration component, an IGCC facility will have significantly less CO₂
24 emissions than a conventional coal plant. We have the opportunity to pioneer this
25
26

1 technology for the world, create a new industry standard, and further reduce production of
2 CO₂ on a global scale.

3
4 CO₂ emissions are very different from SO₂ and NO_x emissions. They do not impact local
5 visibility or create acid rain. The climate change associated with GHG emissions is a global
6 issue and the solutions need to be global in order to be effective.
7

8 **PMEC's Ownership and Operational Structure**

9 **Q: Will Energy Northwest own and operate PMEC?**

10 **A:** Energy Northwest, a municipal corporation and joint operating agency operating in the State
11 of Washington, is developing PMEC. Energy Northwest, perhaps together with its
12 participating public power members, will own a portion of the gasification complex, a
13 generating unit of less than 350 MW and an interest in the other equipment at the site.
14 Pacific Mountain Energy Group, LLC (PMEG, LLC), a Washington State limited liability
15 corporation, or other private entities such as investor-owned utilities, will own the remainder
16 of the gasification complex, the other two generating units, and the balance of the interests in
17 the other equipment at the site.
18

19 Energy Northwest or a qualified contract operator under Energy Northwest's supervision will
20 operate all elements of PMEC. As discussed above, the ASU is expected to be owned and
21 operated by an independent specialty air products company with a defined supply
22 agreement.¹ Water supply and the shipping dock will owned by the Port of Kalama. A sixty
23 year industrial property lease with the Port has been completed.
24

25 ¹ Energy Northwest will finalize its ownership and operation plans for the ASU as it proceeds with
26 the design and construction plans for PMEC. If necessary, Energy Northwest will amend its site
certification application to reflect any revised plans for the ASU.

1
2 **PMEC and the Region's Energy Needs**

3 **Q: Why does the region need PMEC?**

4 A: The Northwest region is experiencing above-average load growth, increasing wholesale
5 power price volatility and a lack of base load generation. It is important to build new and
6 diverse sources of generation in order to meet our growing power supply demands. Pacific
7 Northwest publicly and privately owned utilities need reliable resources to meet their retail
8 electric loads and have expressed strong interest in PMEC to meet those needs.

9
10 Energy Northwest is proposing to provide affordable and reliable base load electrical power
11 for the Pacific Northwest. The Fifth Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Plan ("Fifth
12 Power Plan") issued in May 2005 by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council states
13 that "the region's individual utilities are currently in deficit ... [and] the role of the
14 [Independent Power Producers] in the region's electricity future is unclear." In the Fifth
15 Power Plan,² electricity demand in the Northwest was projected to grow at an average annual
16 rate of nearly 1 percent per year, resulting in an over 5,000 megawatt deficit by 2025 using
17 the medium load growth forecast. By the time the Northwest Power and Conservation
18 Council issued the Fifth Power Plan, it was clear that the demand for new power resources
19 exists in the Pacific Northwest. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council chose
20 IGCC as a viable resource technology in the Fifth Power Plan, which concluded that "the
21 region should secure sites and permits to be prepared to begin construction of new coal
22 generating resources as early as 2010."

23
24
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26 ² Available at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/powerplan/plan/Default.htm> .

1 According to the April 2007 PNUCC Northwest Regional Power Forecast report (Exhibit __
2 (TWK-2), regional loads continue to grow and the region could need around 1000 MW in
3 new capacity in 2008 with an anticipated additional need of 5000 MW over the next ten
4 years. The data indicates that the region has set new records and that load growth has more
5 than completely offset the load loss from the 2000-2001 energy crisis.

6
7 In the BPA July 2006 regional dialogue proposal, BPA estimated that in 2012 it may have a
8 deficit of up to 800 MW under a high load growth (2.5%) scenario for their preference
9 customers alone. BPA recently issued the 2006 Pacific Northwest Loads and Resources
10 Study (2006 White Book), which expresses a strong sense of urgency to create new energy
11 sources (<http://www.bpa.gov/power/pgp/whitebook/2006>).

12
13 Common estimates for the annual load growth in the coming decade range from 1 to 2%.
14 Energy Northwest anticipates load growth that mirrors economic development, likely in the
15 1.5% per year range. Over six years that equates to more than 9% or 1800 MW growth over
16 present load base. Regional load growth in the Northwest power system over the last few
17 years has well exceeded the 1.5% rate.

18
19 In addition, the region continues to experience high voltage transmission constraints. The
20 majority of power generation including hydroelectric, nuclear, coal, and natural gas resources
21 are located on the eastern side of the BPA system, while the large growing load centers are
22 on the western portion of the system.

23
24 Meeting future electricity demand requires planning carefully today. The last of the federal
25 hydroelectric system's capacity will be fully allocated in 2008 through the BPA contracts
26

1 that become effective in 2011. Increased regional wind development requires additional base
2 load and peaking resources to manage that intermittent supply. This power management will
3 not be provided by hydroelectric resources as it has in the past after the system is fully
4 allocated. In addition, it is important to start to develop new generation sources now because
5 of the very long lead times for equipment and construction schedules associated with the
6 development of large energy facilities. Waiting for regional demand to increase even more
7 before beginning work on new base load resources would eventually leave the region and
8 state short of reliable, affordable power and leave utilities and consumers at the economic
9 mercy of the volatile open power market. This could lead to a set of conditions similar to
10 those that prompted the Western energy crisis of 2000-2001.

11
12 **Q: What other technologies did Energy Northwest consider?**

13 A: To meet Washington's current and future energy needs, both base load and intermittent
14 resources are required. Diversification of regional resources is important to keeping a
15 balance between cost, environmental impacts and system reliability. Energy Northwest
16 believes utilities must continue to provide balance and stability to the electric grid with
17 responsible base load generation. In evaluating alternative technologies, Energy Northwest
18 pursued a balanced approach, considering future needs along with the near-term needs of
19 providing new energy sources by the year 2012.

20
21 Prior to selecting IGCC technology, Energy Northwest considered conservation, renewable
22 energy (wind, solar and hydroelectric), nuclear power, conventional coal plants, natural gas
23 and IGCC.

1 *Conservation:* Energy Northwest is a strong advocate of conservation as a first choice for
2 Washington's energy future. However, there are physical, economic and social realities that
3 result in limits to the rate and extent to which conservation resources can be deployed.
4 Energy Northwest believes that conservation will reduce but not keep up with Northwest load
5 growth.

6
7 *Renewable Energy:* Energy Northwest is developing and operating renewable energy
8 projects, primarily wind turbines, to add to our existing renewable base of wind, solar and
9 hydroelectric generators. Energy Northwest is also engaged in evaluating and promoting
10 advanced and emerging renewable resources such as solar, biomass, waste to resources, and
11 wave and tidal energy technologies. Wind, solar and many other renewables will provide a
12 significant contribution to Energy Northwest's energy portfolio in the future, and we have a
13 strong commitment to continue our leadership in that arena. There are, however, limitations
14 on our ability to rely exclusively on renewables to meet growth. For wind, there are a
15 declining number of wind sites, increasing costs, difficulty of obtaining equipment, and the
16 unavailability of transmission from wind sites in eastern Washington and Oregon. Many
17 renewables have issues of commercial availability and scale. We determined that a large
18 base load energy source was needed to meet the supply requirements of our utility
19 participants and this base need could not be met with intermittent energy sources such as
20 wind or solar.

21
22 Hydroelectric generators use a renewable resource and do not emit air emissions. But viable
23 sites for new large hydroelectric dams are limited, and the environmental impacts of building
24 and operating a new dam are large. We determined that it was not feasible to consider siting
25 and constructing a dam of sufficient size to produce 680 MW or more of new energy by the
26

1 year 2012. We are, however, investing substantial resources in the relicensing of our
2 Packwood hydroelectric project so that we can continue to meet a portion of regional needs
3 with this clean resource. Ocean, tidal and kinetic hydropower technologies are interesting,
4 but are small-scale and often raise concerns about impacts on aquatic environments.

5
6 *Nuclear Power:* Nuclear power is enjoying renewed interest. Evaluation and any
7 deployment of new nuclear base load will take substantial time, and is not expected to be
8 available soon enough to meet the shortfalls described above.

9
10 *Conventional Coal:* Conventional coal combustion provides over 50% of the electricity in the
11 United States, and is increasingly being used in developing countries such as China. New
12 coal plants continue to be proposed, partly because it is a relatively cheap process to burn
13 coal and make electricity, and partly because of large domestic coal reserves. The
14 environmental impacts to air quality are significant, even with advanced “emission controls”.
15 For us, the environmental footprint of coal combustion pushed the technology out of
16 consideration.

17
18 *Natural Gas:* Natural gas combustion turbines, the technology of choice for new base load
19 generation for the past several decades, are declining in favor. Natural gas is becoming
20 scarce and expensive, and many planned combustion turbines have been cancelled. Due to
21 volatile natural gas prices, many operating natural gas plants are sitting idle much of the
22 time. The future of natural gas supplies is uncertain as it becomes more difficult to obtain
23 new supplies. Energy Northwest determined that it does not seem prudent to rely on natural
24 gas for all or even most of our future base load generation.

1 IGCC: Gasification offers the cleanest, most efficient method available to produce synthesis
2 gas from low or negative-value carbon-based feed stocks such as coal, petroleum coke, high
3 sulfur fuel oil or materials that would otherwise be disposed as waste. The syngas can be
4 used in place of natural gas to generate electricity, or as a basic raw material to produce
5 chemicals and liquid fuels.

6
7 The combined cycle system has two basic components. A high efficiency gas turbine, widely
8 used in power generation today, burns the clean syngas to produce electricity. Exhaust heat
9 from the gas turbine is recovered to produce steam to power a traditional high efficiency
10 steam turbine. By integrating the coal gasification process with combined cycle power
11 generation, coal can be converted to a clean-burning syngas and used as fuel instead of
12 natural gas.

13
14 **Q: Why did Energy Northwest choose the IGCC technology?**

15 **A:** Energy Northwest found the following advantages of IGCC:

- 16 ▪ The process can use a wide range of feed stocks and can take advantage of low-cost
17 petcoke or coal. PMEC has a goal and is currently negotiating an supply agreement to
18 use petcoke (90-100% depending on actual characteristics) for a strong waste to resource
19 power generation project.
- 20 ▪ With the ability to use petcoke or coal, the pressure on natural gas supplies is reduced,
21 preserving those supplies for residential heating and other uses that don't have the option
22 of other feed stocks.
- 23 ▪ IGCC takes advantage of high efficiency combined cycle power generation technology.
- 24 ▪ IGCC has air emissions similar to natural gas and can effectively remove and dispose of
25 mercury (at least 90%) in syngas.

- IGCC has the potential to support production of hydrogen, substitute natural gas, and clean diesel as well as the creation of other high value byproducts.
- IGCC technology provides an opportunity for reduced GHG emissions and CO₂ capture. Gasification-based power generation plants facilitate carbon sequestration. This technology can effectively capture carbon with lower operational and capital costs than other coal or petcoke fueled power plants.
- IGCC deployment will expand Washington's technical work force in advanced technologies and applications.

Energy Northwest has determined that IGCC technology is the top base load resource choice for the region and for Energy Northwest due to its environmental performance, abundant and diverse feed stocks, and cost competitiveness. The ability to blend fuels, capture carbon, and co-produce clean alternative energy products allows IGCC to be a low cost competitive power generation resource now and into the future.

Q. Does this complete your testimony?

A. Yes it does.

EXHIBIT LIST

Ex. No.	Prefiled No.	Description
	TWK-1	Thomas Krueger's resume
	TWK-2	Northwest Regional Forecast of Power Loads and Resources – PNUCC April 2007
	TWK-3	PNUCC - Principles of Global Climate Change Legislation – April 06, 2007